

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 082/02199	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/IL 01/00683	International filing date (day/month/year) 24/07/2001	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
Applicant SUNLIGHT MEDICAL, LTD.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
 - contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of Invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1

None of the figures.

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Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A method for measuring bone age including: transmitting (120) an acoustic energy into the body (150) of a subject; receiving (122) an acoustic signal from one or more structures including an ossification-actuated skeletal structure or a cranial structure that changes with age, responsive to said transmitted acoustic energy; analyzing (142) the acoustic signal to determine at least one effect of said structure on said signal; and estimating the age of the structure from said determined effect.

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International Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B5/107 A61B8/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 768 322 A (HECHARD PATRICK) 19 March 1999 (1999-03-19)	1-4, 9, 10, 24, 35
A	page 1, line 1 -page 4, line 20; tables 1, 2	5-8, 11-20, 25-34, 37, 49-56
A	EP 0 797 952 A (HOLOGIC INC) 1 October 1997 (1997-10-01)	1, 27, 40, 49, 51, 57-59
	column 2, line 54 -column 3, line 1 column 4, line 20 - line 27 column 5, line 23 - line 52 column 17, line 21 -column 18, line 50; tables 14-19	
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

20 February 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/03/2002

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 651 363 A (KAUFMAN JONATHAN J ET AL) 29 July 1997 (1997-07-29) column 3, line 40 - line 63 column 4, line 11 -column 6, line 22; tables 1-4 ----	1,22,23, 33,35, 49,57,58
A	EP 0 626 656 A (SOUTH BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT HEAL) 30 November 1994 (1994-11-30) page 3, line 45 -page 4, line 15 page 5, line 51 -page 6, line 31 page 18, line 51 -page 20, line 15; tables 1,17-20 ----	1-3,8, 10,11,49
A	SUN Y N ET AL: "A COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR SKELETAL GROWTH MEASUREMENT" COMPUTERS AND BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, ACADEMIC PRESS, LONDON, GB, vol. 27, 1994, pages 2-12, XP002067754 ISSN: 0010-4809 abstract page 2, line 1 -page 11, line 19; tables 1-10 -----	1,8,10, 11,49

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/IL 01/00683	
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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2768322	A	19-03-1999	FR	2768322 A1	19-03-1999
EP 0797952	A	01-10-1997	US AU AU CA EP JP US	5785041 A 726029 B2 1658897 A 2200814 A1 0797952 A1 10043163 A 6029078 A	28-07-1998 26-10-2000 02-10-1997 26-09-1997 01-10-1997 17-02-1998 22-02-2000
US 5651363	A	29-07-1997	AU WO US US	1848197 A 9729688 A1 5785656 A 5879301 A	02-09-1997 21-08-1997 28-07-1998 09-03-1999
EP 0626656	A	30-11-1994	GB EP JP	2278436 A 0626656 A2 7168944 A	30-11-1994 30-11-1994 04-07-1995